What is 'Religion'?

Religion is the communication from God, the sole Creator of us all.

Has He communicated with us?

If we suppose that He has not communicated, then we can simply forget everything about 'religion'. No communication means, no binding on us.

But does the hypothesis "He has not communicated" seems factual? No. In all probabilities, He has communicated with us.

Then, here begins our responsibility and our task to recognize His real communication. His communication, quite logically, contains the following two points. 1. Information about Himself. 2. Instructions for us, i.e., what we should do and what we should not, and what in case we obey Him and what in case we disobey Him.

In the above, point number one, in a way, is actually a part of point number two. He instructs us to understand Him as He says He is. Because HE knows how He is.

What we can understand about Him is just a very little part. How can we understand Him fully when we cannot understand a cell in our own body fully? We can go on understanding Him to endless limits. But the basic things to know are that He is the creator of the whole universe; He has the power, control, and right to do anything; He has (His own free) will. A point worth pondering here: The devil (the supernatural one) is also a creation of God. It is not that God is a good power and the devil is an independent self-existing bad power against Him. It should also be understood that the devil is not a bad creation of God, but he is a creation of God who opted to behave bad — as some humans do.

Now, about God's communication with us.

God's creations are perfectly organized – from the precise miniaturization of an atom to the systematic vastness of billions-of-light-years of the universe. In the same way, His communications are also organized.

He sent (or appointed) humans to guide humans. We may call them Messengers. They preached, and guided their fellow humans. They practiced themselves what they preached. Various messengers were sent at various places of the world and in different eras. God's messengers' teachings are to be followed indisputably and totally. Anything – any thought, any idea, any 'ism' – by any worldly intellectual or by any spiritual sage – however good might it seem – is not acceptable against God's authenticated communications.

By passing time, big parts of those messenger's teachings were either forgotten or altered – both unintentionally and intentionally. Some religions were altered to the extent that people started worshipping messengers and other strong and pious personalities. Today, we find many good things in many religions. These are the remnants of the original teachings of those religions. It would not be irrelevant to add the following here. Sometimes religions are created by some people themselves, and are not based on any communication from the Creator. But such religions do not find their way to the masses and do not last long.

Coming back to the topic of communication from God, when He decided to steer the world into what was soon going to become a Global Village, He sent His final Messenger for the whole world. That messenger conveyed His message, which mainly consisted of two types of commands; one related to our duty towards Him, and the second related to our duty towards His other creations, especially, the fellow humans.

In this last message from Him, concerning our relation with Him, we are asked to worship Him only. Concerning our relation with all His creations (small and big; living and non-living), we are asked to make proper use of everything and to do proper behavior with everybody, and not to cause any harm to anybody unduly. This is the extract, and are the basics, of the teachings/commands in that last message. If we go in further details, there is more and more in these teachings/commands. He, who obeyed Him, will be rewarded. He, who disobeyed Him, will be punished. That, precisely, is 'Islam'.

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